

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUDAPE 00832 171425Z

43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5526

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 0832

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, HU, OVIP (VANCSA, JENO)

SUBJ: PLANNED VISIT TO U.S. BY DEPUTY AGRICULTURE MINISTER VANCSA

PLEASE PASS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

VIENNA FOR AGATT

REF: 75 STATE 264605, 75 BUDAPEST 3504

1. DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT AT HUNGARIAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD, ANTAL NAGY, INFORMED ECONOFF MARCH 17 THAT DEPUTY MINISTER VANCSA WILL NOT BE ABLE TO VISIT U.S. DURING 1976.

2. NAGY WAS OBVIOUSLY GENUINELY DISTURBED TO HAVE TO CONVEY WHAT HE TERMED THIS "UNPLEASANT" NEWS. HE KNOWS THAT VANCSA'S ON-AGAIN, OFF-AGAIN TRIP, ALTHOUGH UNOFFICIAL, WAS RECEIVING HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION WITHIN USG. NAGY SAID THAT VANCSA VERY MUCH REGRETED CANCELLATION, AND HOPED TO BE ABLE TO VISIT "PERHAPS IN 1977".

3. EXCUSE GIVEN WAS THAT BEGINNING OF NEW FIVE-YEAR PLAN, ESPECIALLY FIRST SIX MONTHS, INVOLVED TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF WORK WHICH FALLS PRIMARILY WITHIN VANCSA'S BAILIWICK.

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4. ECONOFF INQUIRED WHETHER AGRICULTURAL EXPERT WOULD

ACCOMPANY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SZEKER DURING HIS
PLANNED MAY VISIT. NAGY REPLIED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE
BUT WOULD NOT DISCLOSE WHO THAT OFFICIAL MIGHT BE.

5. COMMENT: IN MARCH 10 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR,
FOREIGN MINISTER PUJA NOTED THAT PLANNING FOR VANCSA
TRIP PROCEEDING ON SCHEDULE. VANCSA IS SOLE SURVIVOR
OF LATE 1975 PURGE OF DEPUTY MINISTERS BY MINISTER OF
AGRICULTURE ROMANY, WHO SACKED HIS THREE COMPATRIOTS.
EMBASSY BELIEVES IT LIKELY THAT VANCSA WILL SHOULDER
BULK OF WORK AS HUNGARY ENTERS NEW FIVE-YEAR PLAN.
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